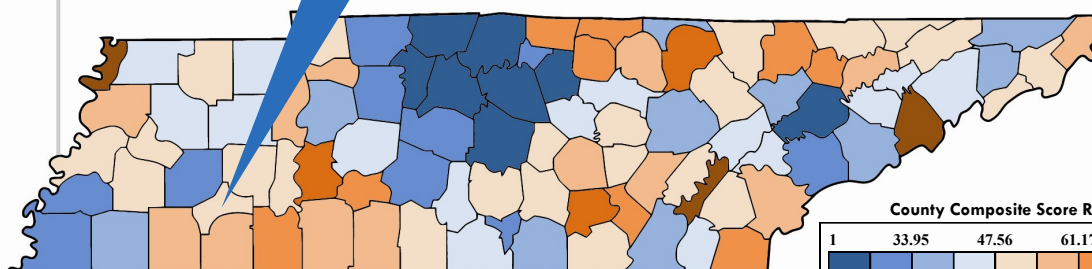


The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

SNAPSHOT: CHESTER COUNTY

2012



County Composite Score Ranges



Ranges defined as 0.5 standard deviations from the mean score of 47.56.

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Population (2010): 17,131

Pop. Density: 54/square mile

Seat of Government: Henderson

Largest City: Henderson

Down from 28th

COUNTY	RANK	INDICATOR SCORES & RANKINGS	DATA	RANK
Henry	43	Employment and Earnings Composite	59.0	75 ▼
Giles	44	Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females*	\$26,388	68 ▼
McMinn	45	Wage Gap (Female Earnings as a Percentage of Male Earnings)	78.54%	33 ▲
Morgan	46	Female Labor Force Participation Rate (Ages 20-64)	68.3%	30 ▼
Hancock	47	Female Unemployment Rate (Ages 20-64)	10.3%	70 ▲
White	48	Percent of Management Occupations Held by Women	18.1%	94 ▼
Scott	49	Economic Autonomy Composite	43.25	39 ▼
Weakley	50	Women-owned Businesses Percent of Total	17.5%	85 ▼
Lauderdale	51	Percent of Females with 4-Year Degree or More (Age 25+)	13.0%	48 ▼
Chester	52	Percent of Females with High School Diploma or Equivalent (Age 25+)	77.3%	55 ▲
Hawkins	53	Female High School Dropout Rate	0.16%	14 ▼
Henderson	53	Percent of Women Uninsured (65 and under)	15.0%	31 ▼
Rhea	55	Percent of Females Below Poverty Level	15.7%	17 ▲
Unicoi	56	Percent of Female-Headed Households with Children in Poverty*	29.0%	7 ▲
Claiborne	57	Rate of Pregnancy for Girls Age 15-19 per 1000*	82	89 ▼
Van Buren	58	County Overview: Weighed down by slow wage gains, high unemployment and a diminishing presence in business roles, Chester County women have experienced advancements in economic strength that are incremental at best. The county's academic progress was also slower than many of its peers', and the few indicators that contributed positively to Chester County's overall ranking were the wage gap and poverty rates among women and mothers—all three figures have worsened since 2000 but at a slower rate than many other counties experienced.		
Bedford	59			
Carter	60			
Stewart	61			

Note: all figures are based on estimates formed from sample data and are subject to sample error and rounding.

* The American Community Survey (ACS) is an annual demographic survey of the U.S. It provides the detailed demographic, economic and housing data that was once supplied by the Decennial Census Long Form. The ACS has a smaller sample so combines several years' data to produce multi-year estimates. Due to the small sample size there is an increased margin of error in many less populated counties for this indicator.

** The 2005 County by County figures were based on a sample of girls age 10-19, whereas the 2012 report reflects the population of girls age 15-19.

† ACS sampling sizes are insufficient to publish certain figures for this category. An estimate was developed from the performance of surrounding counties for the purposes of creating a composite score.

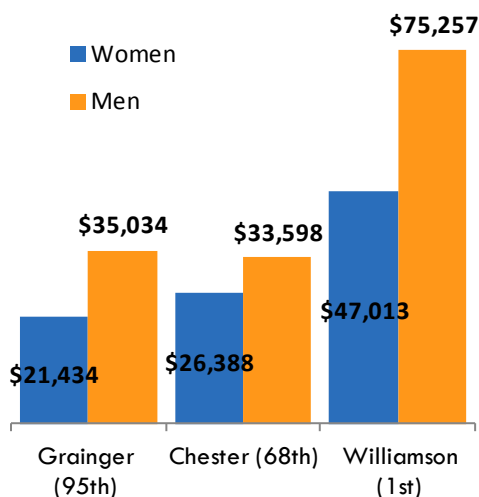
‡ Estimates are too unreliable or not available to be included in composite calculations. Any figure shown is an estimate for the reader's benefit only.

The Status of Women in: Chester County

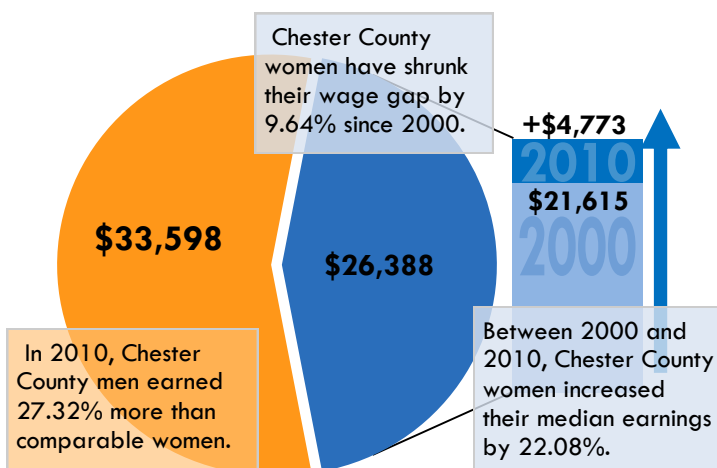
◆ Earnings

Chester County women's median income fell behind the rate of inflation between 2000 and 2010, adding only \$4,773, and dropping from 30th to 68th relative to their peers statewide. Male median income grew at only seven percent during that period, adding just \$2,227, and ranking 73rd statewide.

Median Earnings: Counties Compared



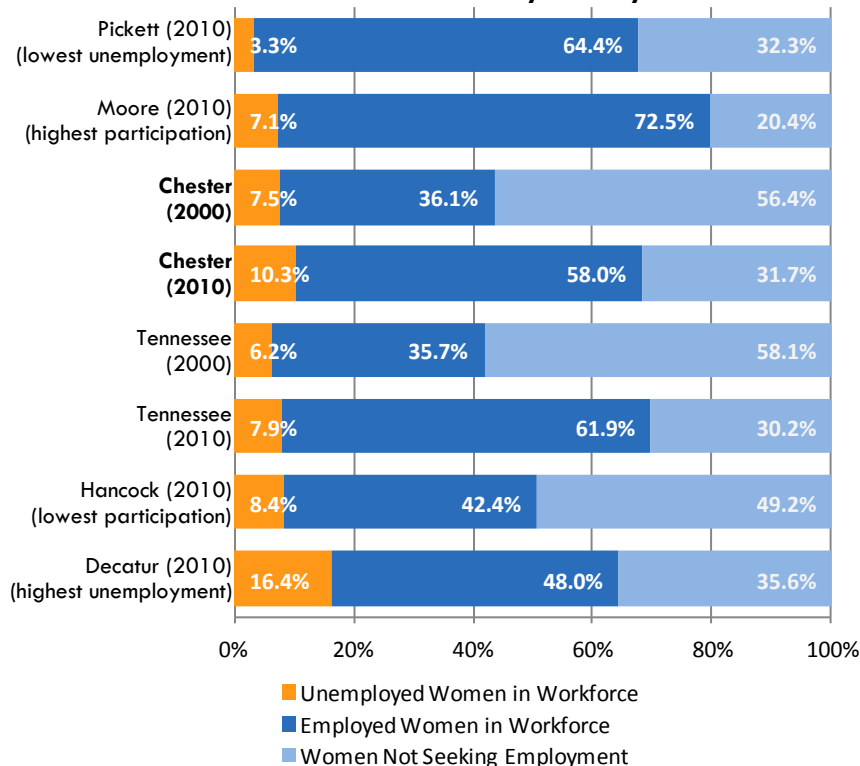
Median Earnings and the Wage Gap, 2000-2010



Poor growth trends in male income contributed significantly to the shrinkage in Chester County's wage gap, which was nearly 10 percent smaller in 2010 than it was in 2000. Improving in this category from 78th to 33rd, women in Chester County estimated to earn roughly 78.5 percent of what their male counterparts earned in 2010. Women in the county also earned substantially less than the statewide median income of \$31,585, but outperformed the statewide wage gap by 1.5 percent.

▼ Employment

Workforce Access for Women By County and Year

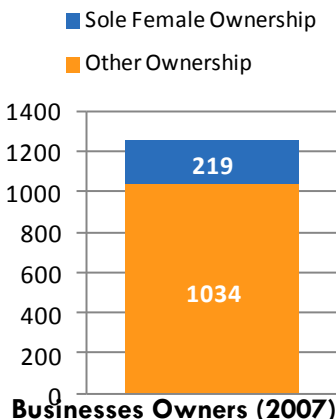


Workforce participation rates in Chester County fell short of statewide rates by only three percent in 2010, and were ranked 30th, slipping just one rank since 2000. Participation grew by nearly two-thirds between 2000 and 2010, with women lagging behind men in this category by 11 percent.

As women joined the workforce in greater numbers, unemployment among them increased by over one-third, to include 10.3 percent of all local women. Despite this increase, Chester performed relatively well among its peers in unemployment rates, causing its rank in this category to increase from 76th to 70th.

Interestingly, unemployment estimates for women with children under the age of six showed a very different trend from most of Tennessee. Typically more likely to be searching for work, this population appeared to be unemployed at the low rate of 2.2 percent in Chester County.

The Status of Women in: Chester County



Business ownership figures in Chester County improved by roughly 1.2 percent between 2000 and 2007, while more recent data on the countywide share of management positions held by women revealed a dramatic decline since 2000.

At 18.1 percent in 2010 from 32 percent in 2000, Chester's management indicator dropped from 15th to 94th; better only than Lake County's 8.8 percent, and amounting to half of the statewide rate.

Chester also fell to 85th from 74th following meager growth in the population of female business owners.

Women At Work

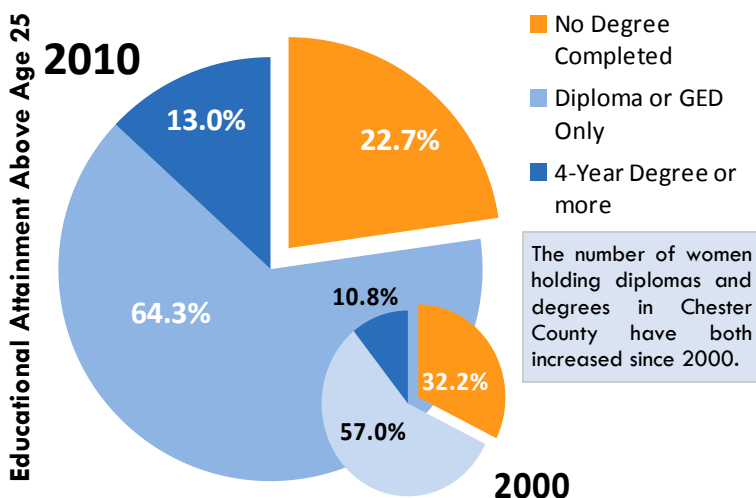
Business Management

The incidence of women managers in Chester County plummeted from 32% to 18.1% between 2000 and 2010.

Business Ownership

The percentage of women business owners in Chester County increased modestly from 16.3% to 17.5% between 2000 and 2007.

Education



Academic trends are a bright spot for Chester County women, but advancements were outpaced by peers statewide in all but one category: the percentage of females with a high school diploma. This population was 9.5 percent larger in 2010 than it was in 2000 and moved up two ranks, to 55th.

Increasing to 13 percent in 2010, the proportion of Chester County women with a college degree continued to trail statewide figures by 9.3 percent and ranked 48th (down from 38th).

Despite falling one place since 2000, female dropouts were competitive statewide at a 14th-ranked rate of 0.16 percent in the 2011-12 school year.

Living

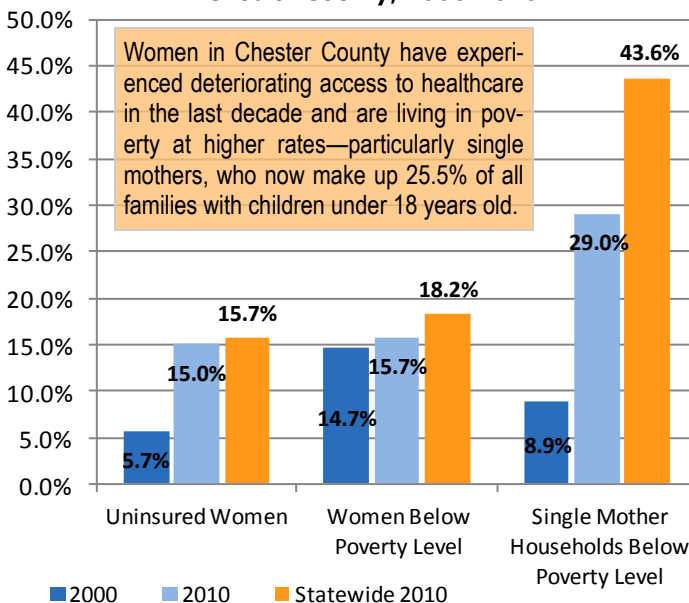
In Spite of low growth in median incomes and mixed performance in indicators across the board, Chester County women experienced relatively slower deterioration in living standards.

As of 2010, a higher percentage of women in the county lived in poverty and single mothers were particularly affected—more than three times as many single mothers lived in poverty in 2010 as in 2000—, but these populations were notably smaller in Chester County than statewide estimates implied. As a result, Chester improved to 17th and 7th in poverty rankings regarding women and single mothers, respectively.

Still measuring better than the state mark by 0.7 percent, Chester County's relative ranking in health care access has fared less positively; dropping from 21st to 31st.

The county's teen pregnancy rate in 2010 was among the worst statewide. Survey data indicates that 8 percent of girls age 15-19 were pregnant in 2010 (ranked 89th).

Health and Poverty Indicators for Women: Chester County, 2000-2010



About the Council and this Report

The **Status of Women in Tennessee Counties** report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percent of management occupations held by women.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of women with any kind of health insurance, percentage of women living in poverty and percentage of single female-headed households living in poverty, the female high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

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Visit the Economic Council on Women at www.tennesseewomen.org

SOURCES	
Employment and Earnings	
Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Selected Economic Characteristics' *
Wage Gap (Female Earnings as Percent of Male Earnings)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Selected Economic Characteristics'
Female Labor Force Participation Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Female Unemployment Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Percent of Management Occupations Held by Women	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Occupation by Sex and Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months for Full-Time, Year-Round Civilian Employed Population, 16 year and older'
Economic Autonomy	
Women-Owned Businesses Percent of Total	U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners 'Statistics for All U.S. Firms by Industry, Gender, Ethnicity, and Race...' † ‡
Percent of Females with 4-Yr Degree or More (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Percent of Females with High School Diploma (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Female High School Dropout Rate	Tennessee Department of Education, 2011-2012 School Year
Percent of Women Uninsured (65 or under)	U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates
Percent of Women Below Poverty Level	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months'
Percent of Female-headed Households with Children in Poverty	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families' *
Rate of Pregnancy for Girls 15-19 (per 1000)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Fertility' *

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